

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 17 of page 10 with the following amended paragraph:

The first and second sets of precursors might or might not share at least one common precursor. The above described example is one where no precursor material is common to the first and second sets. Consider alternately by way of example only a process wherein it is desired to form inner and outer layers of a particle which comprise different nitrides. For example, consider forming the inner layer to comprise TiN, and forming the outer layer to comprise a harder WN material. NH_3 could be utilized as one of the precursor gases for supplying the nitrogen component of the formed nitrides in both the first and second sets of precursors. In one example, an abundance of NH_3 could be fed to reaction flow path 12 in advance of first laser application zone 18. An example additional first precursor gas flowing from one or both of first inlets 22 and 24 would be TiCl_4 . The TiCl_4 and NH_3 would desirably react to form TiN particles in first laser application zone 18. Unreacted NH_3 and reaction byproducts would flow from first laser application zone 18, and could be combined with WF_6 flowing out of one or both of second inlets 26 and 28. The WF_6 and NH_3 would

desirably react within second laser application zone 20 to form ~~and~~ an outer coating of WN over the initially formed TiN particles. Additional NH_3 might be added to reaction flow path 12 intermediate first laser application zone 18 and second laser application zone 20 through one or both of inlets 26 and 28.